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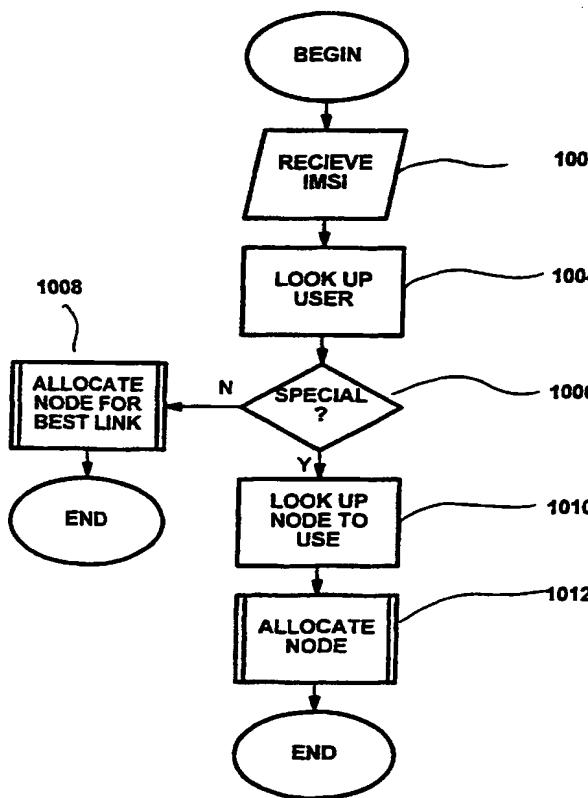
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(54) Title: **METHOD OF REGISTERING A SATELLITE TELEPHONY TERMINAL**



(57) Abstract: A method of registering a satellite telephony user terminal with a system comprising one or more earth stations for communication with said user terminal via one or more satellites; and one or more switch nodes interconnected therewith by a terrestrial network; the method comprising; determining whether data has been received from the terminal, which is indicative of the identity of the user or the user terminal if so, determining therefrom a switch node to be used for communication with that terminal; and allocating that switch node as the node via which calls to and from the user terminal should be directed; if not; determining whether data has been received from the terminal, which is indicative of a switch node to be used for communication with that terminal and not of the identity of the user or the user terminal; and allocating that switch node as the node via which calls to and from the user terminal should be directed; if not; allocating a said switch node on other criteria.

